

tax does to my grocery bill, it adds 4½% to that. Food and groceries are one of the most inflationary items in our economy today. In fact, it probably is the most inflationary item in our economy today and yet we continue to lay a 4½% tax on it in Omaha, a 3% tax on it in the rest of Nebraska, 4% tax I believe in Lincoln and the like. We are contributing to inflation by taxing the item. We continue to make war on our people by taxing a true and bona fide necessity. It is time for us to cease hostility. It is time for us to remove the sales tax. I support Senator Newell's amendment because the amendment in the end allows us a reasonable period of time to work out the ultimate funding sources for the local subdivisions.

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: But in the end, we must cease this war.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb. Senator Lamb calls for the question. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease on the Newell amendment. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. Debate ceases and, Senator Newell, you will close on your amendment.

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I think there needs to be a clarification. This is the amendment to make the effective date, the bill was introduced last year, the effective date was 1981. This would delay the effective date to July 1, 1983, since it has been a year since the bill was introduced and it is not the bill. It is not the advancement of the bill as people are still talking about the issue of the elimination of the sales tax on food. This amendment would only provide the delay mechanism and with that explanation, I hope we do understand that this is trying to just change the date. It is not the advancement of the bill. I would move the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The question now before the House is the adoption of the Newell amendment to LB 16. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 11 nays on the motion to adopt, Mr. President.